EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country cleanup and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant funds are provided to nonprofit organizations and other eligible entities to recruit, train, and place residents from solid and hazardous waste-impacted communities, including low-income and minority, unemployed, and underemployed individuals. To date, EPA has funded 274 job training grants totaling over \$57 million through the Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program. As of May 2017, more than 16,300 individuals have completed training, and of those, almost 12,000 have obtained employment in the environmental field, an average starting wage of over \$14 an hour. This equates to a cumulative placement rate of approximately 73% since the program was created in 1998.

Job Training Grant

\$200,000.00

EPA has selected Santa Fe Community College for an Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant. Santa Fe Community College plans to train 69 students and place at least 51 graduates in environmental jobs. The core training program includes 164 hours of instruction in 40-hour HAZWOPER, hazardous waste management, solid waste management, CPR/first aid, OSHA 30-hour, Phase I and II environmental site assessments, forklift operator, environmental sampling, confined space entry, mold remediation, asbestos awareness, and DOT hazmat. Participants who complete the training program will earn 12 state or federal certifications. Santa Fe Community College is targeting rural Native Americans, veterans, and disconnected youth in the Counties of Mora, Rio Arriba, Santa Fe, and Taos. Key partners include Coordinated Vision LLC, Northern New Mexico College, New Mexico Branch of the Association of General Contractors, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Santa Fe YouthWorks, SER Jobs for Progress, New Mexico Workforce Connection, Northern Area Local Workforce Development Board, and Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council Office of Environmental and Technical Assistance.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 6 Brownfields Team (214) 665-8358 EPA Region 6 Brownfields Web site (https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/epa-region-6-south-central-brownfields)

Grant Recipient: Santa Fe Community College, NM (505) 428-1811

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.